FAILSAFE FIXES FOR FREQUENTLY FRUSTRATING FLAWS

Engaging Pathways to Musical Refinement

Richard Floyd
Texas UIL State Director of Music Emeritus
University of Texas at Austin
Music Director – Austin Symphonic Band

CREATING A HAPPY WORKSHOP "Only The Happy Birds Sing"

Lead Students To Think For Themselves

Recognizing The Difference Between Compliance And Understanding

Rehearsing In A Positive Context

Importance Of Genuine Eye Contact

Always...Always Rehearse With A Musical Motive

Tone & Intonation

Sitting Like You Are About To Stand

Sixty Miles Per Hour Air Stream

Curse Of The "Tuning Ritual"

Clarinets And Buzzy Fingers

The Concept Of Tasting A Note.

If First Chair Players Can't Play In Tune, The Band Can Never Play In Tune

Multiple Tuning Notes. Consider Concert F And Concert Bb

Time

Is It Technique Or Is It Rhythm?

Finding The Internal Pulse Or "Rhythmic Glue" Of The Music

Slow Music Technique Vs. Fast Music Technique

Make Me Worry You Are Going To Rush...But Don't You Dare!

Remember The Space Between The Notes

Use Of Rehearsal Tempo

Balance & Blend

Listening To Your Trio Of Players

The Band That Breathes Together Will Play Together

The Blacker The Measure The More Important The Part.

Don't Forget The "Goo" In The Middle

Articulation

Articulation Is About Note Shape...Not Precision.

Consider The "Front Ends" Of Notes.

Accented Notes Don't Touch

The Word "Tone" To Model Note Shape.

Blow Through Notes....Not At Them

In Transcriptions...Don't Forget The Afterglow

Resonance = Ringing Quality & Underlying Meaning

Dynamics

The Illusion Of Dynamics

Dynamics Are An Approximation At Best

The Necessity Of Proportion

The Use Of Percentages To Define Dynamics

Putting It All Together

A Band Is Comprised Of Many Chamber Ensembles

Putting On Your Musical Makeup

Practicing Vs. Rehearsing

Listen With Your Eyes Closed

The "Ten" In The Room

Collaborative Rehearsing Of Like-Material

Counting Rests While Staying "In The Game"

Stagger Breathing Made Easy

Use Peer Interaction To Elevate Musicianship

Percussion Front And Center!

Combine Verbal And Non-Verbal Guidance (Not Instruction)

• • • • • • • • • • • •

THE ULTIMATE GOAL OF EDUCATION IS TO GUIDE

STUDENTS TO THINK FOR THEMSELVES